

Territorial Items.

The Socorro Fire Clay company is shipping brick to Arizona and southern New Mexico.

H. R. Tucker has opened a vein of mineral in the Cook's Peak district, three to ten feet in width, and running in silver, copper, iron and lead.

The Brush Heap struck shale in the bottom of the main shaft last week. The foreman of this mine says that he will be in good ore in about a month.

Alonso Morris, employed in the Vienna bakery, at Deming, was painfully injured internally while endeavoring to mount a "bucking" horse last Tuesday.

The Gold Hill mill started up on a fine run of ore from Dolan and Sullivan's mine. There is a good prospect, high-grade ore having been shipped with very satisfactory returns.

Frank Hooker and Dan McGowan returned to Kingston from a prospecting trip south of Cook's Peak. These gentlemen report finding some good float, running both gold and silver.

The cages for the main shaft on the Brush Heap are being put in at present. This shaft is now timbered all the way down, so there is now no danger of any one being hurt by rock falling from off the walls.

Mr. J. H. Beeler, employed at the sampling works being erected at Deming, had a severe fall a few days ago, and for a time seemed to be fatally injured, and was laid out for dead. He soon recovered, however, and is at work again as usual.

The Socorro Fire Clay company have one hundred and fifty thousand brick in the kiln for the school houses in Socorro now in course of construction. They also are starting on an order of one hundred thousand for the Rio Grande smelter.

The explosion of a lamp in Nordhaus' saddlery establishment at Deming last Thursday evening came near causing a conflagration that might have proven serious. It was early in the evening, during Mr. N's absence at supper, but by the prompt and timely efforts of neighbors the room was broken open and the fire extinguished with little damage.

The officers of the Albuquerque Fair association are discussing the desirability of having a rock drilling contest during the fair, to be open to the miners of New Mexico and Arizona, and it is more than likely that the scheme will be entered on the program, and liberal prizes offered. Such contests in Denver, Colorado, and Helena, Montana, recently drew immense throngs of miners from all over the northwest. A rock-drilling contest is the most exciting amusement that can be offered to the immense gathering of miners of the southwest, who will attend the mass convention during the fair. All teams or single handers who desire to enter in the contest should communicate at once with Superintendent Roberts, of the mineral department.

Some weeks since J. R. Bogardus, the contractor and builder, visited Cerrillos to examine the concentrator there with a view to its removal to the Stephenson-Bennett mine at Organ. It has been decided to move it, and Wednesday Col. T. W. Thornton and Mr. Bogardus left for Cerrillos where the latter will superintend the taking down and the shipment of the concentrator and its erection at the mine. With the supply of water that has been obtained the concentrator will increase the output of Organ camp very materially and utilize the large bodies of low grade ore in the mines that are now practically valueless. It will increase the prosperity of the camp as besides those operating the concentrator a large force will have to be kept constantly employed in the mine to supply the ore. This will mark the beginning of a new and better era for Organ camp.—Rio Grande Republican.

There are fifteen National banks in New York City which have deposits exceeding \$15,000,000 each, the largest amount being \$33,000,000 in the National Park Bank, and the next largest amount \$25,000,000 in the Chemical National. Ten banks have over \$15,000,000 each loaned, the National Park having the largest amount, and the First National the second largest.

Cattle Notes.

To July 15, 130,000 steers had passed through Cheyenne for northern ranges.

Fire on July 18, entirely destroyed the Cleveland stock yards and exchange building.

M. S. Otero is shipping a large number of cattle from his Bernalillo county range to Kansas, where he will pasture them.

It is authentically asserted that the Pueblo stock yards have been purchased by the Kansas City Stock Yards company for \$125,000 cash.

The steer, says a writer, must go to the block at two years old if a thoroughbred, and at thirty months if a high grade, if any profit is expected.

Over 10,000 head of cattle nearly all steers, have been shipped from Magdalena during the past thirty days to northern ranges and eastern pastures.

Dan Taylor, last week started a bunch of 1,900 head of mixed cattle which he has been holding near Folsom, to Fremont, Colorado, where he will turn them on the range.

A number of steers from the Gila river range, of the Red River Cattle Co., are being shipped to the range of the company in Colfax county, where there are now few cattle and the range is good.

The calf crop throughout New Mexico will be poor this year, and will continue so until the range recovers from the effects of the overstocking which took place during the boom days. The rapid reduction which has taken place in the number of cattle in the past five years is already having a good effect, but the damage resulting from the overstocking will not be affected for several years yet.—Stock Grower.

About 150,000 sheep, principally wethers, have been in the vicinity of Las Vegas for the past month. Some 40,000 are the property of Chas. Ifield, of Las Vegas; 13,000 destined for Shelton, Nebraska; 10,000 belong to Swift & Co., Kansas City, and will be driven to Nebraska and Kansas feed lots; 10,000 for S. M. Newton, Ogden, Kansas, who will drive them through to his feed lots; 80,000 were in the hands of Pebbles and Seldomridge who will trail them to their Colorado range. All of these flocks have gone through the dipping process, a large portion having been run through the tanks erected by Mr. Ifield, near Las Vegas.—Stock Grower.

Texas fever is reported to have broken out in Lyon county, Kansas. About 2,300 head of Texas cattle were recently brought into the county over the M. K. & T., and driven over the southern portion of the county to Mr. Brogan's pasture in Chase county. In the neighborhood of the road over which the Texas cattle had been driven the native cattle have died of Texas fever. At last accounts fifty cattle had died and several reported infected. Mr. Hurst, of the Kansas state sanitary commission, Sheriff Evans and S. V. Bitler, chairman of the Lyon county board of commissioners, after making an examination of the infected region, established a quarantine along the route traveled by the Texas cattle.—Stock Grower.

The top of the hill has evidently been reached in the cattle market for a spell. Feeders and shippers have enjoyed a brief season of prosperity, such as has never been known before. Those who were fortunate enough to get in at the right time received margin enough to fully compensate for losses suffered in former times of depression. Now the country seems to be waking up to the realization that there is no opportunity like the present. Already the trade is being affected by excessive runs, and it is only a question of time, and a short time, too, when the bulk of the advance will be swept away, and this will fall heaviest on cattle that are green and unfinished. One cause of the recent light runs which caused the inflated price was the fact that the farmers have been unusually busy getting their delayed corn crop in proper condition. Besides, the harvest season is on in full force in the wheat growing districts, and farmers were not in position to get their cattle ready for shipment. The wild and excited markets have so affected the country that there is much danger of a flood of cattle that will come half matured. Cattle raisers should exercise good judgment, and ship with moderation.—Chicago Drovers' Journal.

Causes of Rain.

San Francisco Chronicle.

The principal cause, it may, perhaps, be said the only cause, of rain is a change from heat to cold, or vice versa. Into a mass of heated air, a mass or current of cold air falls or is injected, or similar phenomena occur with a mass of warm air, and there is a condensation of the moisture which always exists in the atmosphere with a fall of rain. Sometimes the air of higher or lower temperature is brought by a wind of more or less violence, and the rainfall is more or less copious. When an upper stratum of cold air falls upon a lower stratum the change usually proceeds slower and the rain is more moderate at first, with prospect of longer continuance. In these atmospheric modifications electricity plays a part, but whether as cause or effect is not as yet and perhaps never will be fully determined. Mountain ranges or isolated mountain peaks affect the local rainfall, or modify it to such an extent that the entire character of certain countries is changed by these agencies. When there is a range of lofty mountains like the Sierra Nevada, at no great distance from the sea the passage of the moist currents of air toward the interior of the continent is interrupted. Nearly all the rain falls on the seaward side and the interior becomes a comparative desert, as in North America, depending for the scanty amount of moisture furnished it on other natural causes. In great deserts like the Sahara rain only falls in the vicinity of mountains, where the storms are often violent, but brief. The climatology of the tropics has been imperfectly studied, but the rains, which are much more abundant, depend in the equatorial belt, as in the temperate zones, on changes of temperature. Droughts occur in Hindostan and in Central Africa, but it is to be remarked that great desert regions like those of Northern Africa and Central Asia are only found at a considerable distance north and south of the equator.

The laws that regulate rainfall are even more general than this statement of facts would seem to intimate, since they depend in a great measure on the trade winds and the secondary air current called monsoons, which these generate. The monsoons diverge toward the north and south, and are modified by the form of the seas and continents. As the equatorial winds tend toward the poles great currents of air are constantly flowing toward the equator to supply the void they leave. Were there no other elements in the calculation winds would flow during long periods of time in the same direction with a regularity that would be monotonous. To prevent this, heat comes in as a new factor. In summer, the air heated in great valleys and vast spaces of level country rises and cold air falls from above or rushes in from the lateral spaces to supply its place. Ocean currents like the so-called Japan current or the Gulf stream modify the climate along thousands of miles of seacoast, extending their effects often far into the interior. All these causes, it will be observed, are of a general nature and far beyond the control of man. Still they are purely terrestrial, and our climate is dependent on the sun, which has its changes and irregularities. If the heat it furnishes the earth were a constant quantity and it so exerted its attractive power on this planet as to keep the polar axis at the same angle to the ecliptic, our seasons would always present the same variation of heat and cold. But we have to account with spots on the surface of the sun, whose influence is not precisely understood, but is supposed to be malignant, and with a change in the relative position of the poles, which has already had some effect on the earth's atmosphere, though this cannot yet be proved.

According to a recent report of a special agent of the Irrigation Inquiry, the growth of irrigation is proceeding with as much rapidity as population, prudence and business interests warrant. The increase in cultivation in five years—from 1886 to 1891—is over 3,000,000 acres, and that under ditch that can be irrigated is not less 10,500. A noticeable feature is the change in the cultivation. Large areas are being annually planted for other crops than grass or forage crops. It is estimated that the increase in general farming in

the past five years has been at least 50 per cent. The diffusion of irrigation is another marked feature in the report. A general increase is noticed in the irrigated areas of all the irrigated states and territories. Another sign of progress is seen in the steady increase in the area of fruit culture. Over the whole irrigation area, and especially in Arizona, California, Colorado, and portions of Idaho, Montana and Washington, there has been a steady growth. The total growth is estimated to be at least 200 per cent. in the older irrigated communities. The area planted to fruit is very large, and taking the entire arid region it will stand in the estimated ratio of 10 acres to 1 in bearing fruit trees and vines. The increase in the use of wells and other phreatic waters is another important item. The total number of artesian wells west of the ninety-seventh degree, is reported to be 13,691. At 20 acres each, these will irrigate 273,800 acres. There are at least 20,000 more dug or bored wells, used mainly for domestic purposes, and irrigating gardens, orchards or lawns, but they are on the increase. It may be fairly estimated that the total irrigation practiced from the underground supply, will amount to at least 1,500,000 acres.—Irrigation Age.

The assertion is sometimes made that the Nicaragua canal will not benefit us in regard to the increase of the number of our ships, and this assertion is based on the fact that France failed to add a single ship to her carrying fleet by the completion of the Suez canal, built by French engineering, French enterprise and French capital. This fact is brought forward as a lesson in history which we must bear in mind when we are asked to consider the Nicaragua canal question as an element in the development of our commerce. At the present day the Suez canal is chiefly devoted to the carrying trade of England, and England owns a fighting interest in the stock. We hold in regard to the Nicaragua canal that the United States will, no matter who builds it, take the same position that England could not fail to attain in the use of the Suez canal. England possesses an immense, flourishing and steadily increasing commerce in the east, while the commercial possessions of France are comparatively small. Like England in the east, we have extensive possessions in the west on our Pacific shore, California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska, all very flourishing, while productiveness is steadily increasing. It must, without fail, stimulate our ship building trade when, by a shorter and safer transit, the mutual commerce will receive a most powerful impulse. All the European ocean-faring nations are even more interested in the Nicaragua canal than in the Suez canal, because by passing it they will avoid the stormy ocean of the extreme southern coast of South America, the sailing around which is a great deal worse than sailing around the cape of Good Hope.

Among the most recent uses to which electricity has been applied is that of transmitting photographs by wire. The process is founded upon using electricity of varying degrees of strength, as in the telephone; or in other words the movement of a certain lever at one end of the line causes a corresponding lever to take the same motion at the other end, similar to the telegraph key. The telephone is affected by varying sound waves: the instrument described is affected by the varying degrees of light. With this machine the cut of the speaker and the speech may be sent over the same wire, and twenty minutes after the message has been sent it will appear in the papers in New York, accompanied by a cut of the orator taken on the spot. The machine is the invention of N. S. Amstutz, of Cleveland, Ohio.

A New York evening paper says that several capitalists of that city have combined to compete with the American Sugar Refineries Co., and have already nearly completed a large plant in Brooklyn, on the East River.

"A hare in the garden! Hand me a gun, Jacques." "But, sir, it is five o'clock in the morning; everybody is asleep." "Never mind. I'll fire on tiptoe."—Le Monde Illustré.

In 1635 John Blackstone sold the site of the city of Boston for one hundred and fifty dollars.

Canalogue.

The establishment of canals extract works here has attracted very wide and considerable attention to the possibilities of the cultivation and utilization of that most remarkable but little known product of the plains. It has been demonstrated to be a very useful article in the preparation of hides for the manufacture of leather.

As the oak forests of the country are disappearing, and the demand for a substitute increases, the attention of leather manufacturers has been drawn sharply to the necessity of devising or discovering some agency that would take the place of oak bark. That has been demonstrated to exist in this dry and apparently useless bulbous root, long known on the dry, sandy plains of southwestern New Mexico, until lately considered utterly useless for any human or commercial purpose.

It is said by those who have experimented with it that it is susceptible of successful cultivation. It is peculiarly adapted to the soil of these plains, and thrives where nothing else can grow. It is not impossible, it is even probable that this scraggy and forbidding outcast shrub may yet become an important commercial factor in this region.

After all, science can scarcely explain the why of anything. It merely points out the order in which natural processes occur. Preyer holds that sleep is caused by the products of decomposition, lactic acid and creatin taking up the oxygen in the blood. The functions of gray matter of the cortex cannot be exercised without a plentiful supply of arterial blood any more than the zinc and copper of a voltaic pile will evolve electricity without sulphuric acid. Thus the blood conveys a stimulus or imparts a capacity to the nerve tissues during waking, while during sleep it has a separate and distinct function—that of repairing waste. Apparently these two processes cannot go on in the brain at once, or at least only to a degree too limited to prevent a speedy exhaustion of the vital powers if sleep be withheld.

The common manner of counting among the Indians is to turn down the little finger of the left hand for one, the next finger in order for two, the next for three, the next for four and the thumb for five; then the thumb of the right hand for six, and so on until the little finger of the right hand is turned down for ten. In indicating to others the left hand held up with all the fingers turned down except the little finger would mean one, that and the next finger to it would mean two and so on. In counting by tens they will close the fingers of each hand to indicate each ten, or they will hold both hands up with palms outward and fingers extended for each ten. Indians are not generally good arithmeticians. In their native state they have no idea of making the simplest mental calculation. To add or subtract they will use sticks, pebbles, or other objects.

Although an ant is a tiny creature, yet its brain is still tinier. But, although it is necessarily smaller than the ant's head which contains it, yet it is larger in proportion, according to the ant's size than the brain of any known creature. The best writers upon ants—those who have made the wonderful intelligence of these little insects a special study—are obliged to admit that they display reasoning ability, calculation, reflection and good judgment. Such qualities of brain show a more than ordinary instinct, and we are not surprised to hear that the ant's big brain carries out our idea that he possesses a higher intelligence than is shown by other workers of his size.

The Dismal Swamp in Virginia, one of the largest of swampy tracts in America, is also one of the most promising areas for reclamation. It contains fully 1,500 square miles, and is at present of but little value, except for a supply of timber. It is an old sea bottom and the western boundary of the swamp is a sea cliff and beach. The chief animal population of the higher classes consists of water birds and snakes. Of the large animals, bears are abundant, and there is a peculiar and very ferocious species of horned cattle. The flight of the bears is said to be very exciting.

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Mining Industry.
The mineral industry of the United States grows apace. In 1890 the value of its chief items at the place of production exceeded \$650,000,000, and though the cash value of these products in 1891 was probably less than in 1890, owing to the lower prices of most of them yet the quantities produced were, with very few exceptions, much greater than in any previous year. The output of gold is increasing but in the absence of full returns we place it in 1891 at approximately 1,620,000 ounces, or \$33,250,000 an increase of 320,000 ounces. The output of silver has increased much more rapidly, and we estimate in the absence of full returns that it amounted in 1891 to 58,000,000 ounces, the coinage value of which would be \$74,820,000.—Engineering and Mining Journal.

"What's the matter, Jack? You look broken up." "I am. You know, I came three hundred miles to see Miss Hardcastle. Well I called on her last night, and by mistake sent up a pawn ticket instead of my card."—Life.

In this country over 33,000,000 acres of land are being farmed by irrigation. France owes its wonderful success in gardening to this system, and in late years Italy has spent over \$200,000,000 for this purpose.

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